Oil Coordination Committee

1079. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minsiter of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the constitution of the Oil Coordination Committee, its functional parameters, and the salient features of the adminsitered price mechanism for petroleum products;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a deficit in the oil pool account, if so, what has been the cumulative deficit as on 31.3.93, 31.3.94 and 31.3.95 and also deficit or surplus during each of the last three years;

(c) what are the major items causing these deficits and what have been their contributions to deficits during each of the last three years; and

(d) in what manner the deficit in the oil pool fund is sought to be met or neutralised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) Oil Coordination Committee has been set up for administering the Pool Acc6unt, deciding on allocation of crude oil and monthly production patterns and coordinating transportation arrangements for crude oil imports and its coastal movements. OCC comprises of Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas Chairman, Addl. Secretary, JS&FA, JS(R), JS(M), in the Ministry of Petroleum and natural Gas, Chief Executives of IOC, BPC, HPC, IBB Co. Ltd., MRL, CRL, ONGC, GAIL, ED, OISD as members and Executive Director, OCC as member Secretary.

Oil Coordination Committee furnctions under instructions and guidelines from Government in all matters and generally assists the Government in the areas of activity allotted to it and such other matters as may be referred to it from time to time.

The pricing of petroleum products is based on the retention concept whereunder the oil refineries, oil marketing companies and the pipelines are compensated operating costs and return at 12% post tax on net worth. Under this concept a fixed level of profitability for the oil companies is ensured subject to their achieving laid down capacity.

(b) There is a cumulative outstanding to oil companies from the Oil Pool Account. The amount of outstanidng in Rs./Crores has been 4904, 5050 and 3800 for the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 respectively.

(c) Outstanding in the pool account has arisen because the sales realisation from the product did not fully cover the costs incurred.

(d) The position of the oil pool account is periodically reviewed and corrective action taken.

Indians in Pakistani and Bangladeshi Jails

1080. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

Will the Minsiter of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of Indian nationals presently languishing in jails of Pakistan and Bangladesh;

(b) since when they have been detained there and the reasons therefor;

(c) how many belong to Indian armed forces;

(d) whether Government have taken up the matter with the Government of Pakistan and Bangladesh; and if so, with what results; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take for the release and repatriation of Indians who are in Pakistani and Bangladeshi jails and by when they are

likely to be released and sent back to India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) and (b) According to available information there are at present 1221 Indian prisoners in Pakistani jails. The Indian nationals in Pakistan are detained on several grounds, including alleged transgression of local laws or overstay of visa period; apprehensions in the waters in the region where the Indo-Pak maritime boundary is yet to be determined; straying across the IB and LOC, etc. Pakistan does not furnish details of the Indian prisoners lodged in various jails in Pakistan on a case-by-case basis.

Information in respect of Bangladesh is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) 54 missing Indian defence personnel are believed to be in custody in Pakistan. The question of their release has been repeatedly taken up with the Government of Pakistan. These efforts continue. The Government of Pakistan, however, maintain that there are no Indian defence personnel in their custody.

There are no Indian defence personnel in custody in Bangladesh.

(d) and (e) The qeustion of the early release and repatriation of all Indian prisoners under detention in Pakistan and Bangladesh have been taken up with the respective Governments. We would continue to make all efforts at every available opportunity in this regard.

Difficulties in combating terrorism due to lapse of TADA

1081. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether after the lapse of TADA, representations have been received from a number of States and Union Territories regarding the difficulties 'being experienced by them in combating terrorist and disruptive activities;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action, if any, has been taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

Central assitance for maintenance and development of road network in Bihar

1082. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have provided central assistance for the maintenanc and development of road network in the State of Bihar;

(b) if so, what are the year-wise details thereof for the last three years;

(c) whether Government of Bihar have submitted any feedback report to the Central Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Government of India is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways in the country while roads other than Naitonal Highways are the responsibility of the States. Central Government, however, provides assistance to the States for roads of inter-state and economic importance within a limited budget. No assistance to the State of Bihar was, however, provided under the scheme during the last three years.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.